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(71) Applicants (for all designated States except US): JAMES COOK UNIVERSITY OF NORTH QUEENSLAND [AU/AU]; Townsville, QLD 4811 (AU). CSR LIMITED [AU/AU]; Level 6, Hall Chadwick Building, 46 Edward Street, Brisbane, OLD 4000 (AU).

(72) Inventor; and

(75) Inventor/Applicant (for US only): VALIX, Marjorie, Gan [AU/AU]; 26 Andrews Street, West Ryde, NSW 2114 (AU).

(74) Agent: CULLEN & CO.; Level 12, 240 Queen Street, Brisbane, QLD 4000 (AU).

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(54) Title: FOOD GRADE WAX AND PROCESS FOR PREPARING SAME

(57) Abstract

The invention provides a wax composition which can be used in comestibles. The wax composition is obtained from sugar cane and commises wax esters, aldehydes, tri-glycerides, alcohols, free fatty acids, sterols and polar lipids. A process for preparing a wax composition from crude sugar cane wax, the process comprising the steps of: (i) heating a solution of the crude wax with a lower alcohol as sovient at the boiling point of the solvent; (ii) allowing phase separation of the solution from (i) and decanting the upper phase while hot; (iii) allowing the separated phase from (ii) to cool and separating crystallised wax from the solvent; (iv) repeating steps (i) to (iii) using the wax from (iii) until all pitch has been removed from the wax; (v) heating the wax to between 90 and 140 °C and oxidising molten wax with oxidising material; and (vi) continuing the heating under and inert gas on completion of the oxidation step until intermediate peroxide products are removed: